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THURSDAY, DECEMBER 7, 1893.

WEATHER BULLETIN.
 Washington, Dec. 6.—For lower Michigan: Snow, drizzle, warmer Thursday night; variable winds becoming westerly.

THE PRESUMPTUOUS AGENT.

The prolonged delay of action on the part of the president's agent, Mr. Willis, in handing over to the administration the report of the committee on the Blount report. If any further evidence or argument were necessary that was contained in ex-Minister Stevens' reply, it was furnished in yesterday's news from Hawaii. The fact that a special agent of the executive dispatched on a special mission to perform a certain act has hesitated to perform that act until he can advise his chief that in his judgment his instructions should not be carried out, is capable of two constructions. Under ordinary circumstances the agent would be very severely censured by the public. He would be considered presumptuous by the executive and chastised by a recall forthwith. The other alternative and the one that is generally accepted, is that the judgment of the agent is superior to that of his chief. Yet the state of affairs found by Mr. Willis must greatly differ from what was set forth by Mr. Blount or else his instructions would have been obeyed. At any rate the agent seems to have a mind of his own and is not satisfied to obey his master's will now that he has learned to a certainty that to do so would be wrong. It is to be hoped that Mr. Willis may yet save the administration from accomplishing its purpose in this matter. It is growing more and more apparent that the plan to restore the deposed queen is nothing more, nothing less than a purpose on the part of the president's mugsyump secretary to make odium to be thrown upon the preceding administration. Such spite work or any act inspired by personal malice, or even a desire to further the interests of party should have no part in our foreign policy. If the administration should by any hook or crook fail to kill itself politically because of its financial or free trade policy, it will surely accomplish that end if its present methods of dealing with foreign affairs are continued.

REVIVAL OF BUSINESS.

The cash reserves now held by the banks of New York amount to nearly or quite \$200,000,000. This shows better than anything else, that business is waiting for something before it moves. Such an enormous accumulation of idle money has not been witnessed for many days. It indicates commercial stagnation as nothing else can, and the continued depression in business illustrates most emphatically how far-reaching is the proposed change in an industrial policy. In ordinary times, such mammoth accumulations of money would at once attract borrowers and encourage new enterprises. It would inspire with renewed energy those already established, and enable them to enlarge or increase their business, when and where desirable and profitable. At present, it indicates a great shrinkage in the volume of trade, for the demand for loans from all over the country is reported as very light. This means that business men, and speculators as well, are satisfied to let well enough alone. It indicates that even American enterprise, which is proverbially restless, is satisfied to play a conservative part until the tariff question is settled. If money continues cheap, new enterprises will be launched and the routine activity of the country in a measure resumed. It must be, however, on the basis of practical free trade, for the country must be prepared for the passage of the Wilson bill. The laborer will not be hearing more than his share of the burden, and must expect to let the Wilson bill be to become a law. In any event it is to be hoped that the tariff question will be settled, for anything almost is preferable to suspension. So soon as the tariff question shall be settled, business will set about to adjust itself to the changed condition, and we will be in a measure prosperous again. Labor will be given employment in those lines of industry that are able to resume, although at expected lower wages. It is believed that this revival of business would naturally come early in the new year. So let the tariff question be settled and the decks cleared for action.

Finally a decided step toward the solution of the trouble growing out of the Nelson, Matter & Co. failure has been taken. This is good news, for it is above all things desirable that an extensive plant and one which can furnish employment to so many hands, should be ready when business revives, to go into operation, rather than be given over to the sale and auction, undertaken by the bank of industry.

There were three presidents in the United States in 1841. Martin Van Buren occupied the chair from January

1 to March 3, William Henry Harrison from March 4 to April 4 and John Tyler the balance of the year. The same thing occurred forty years later. In 1881 the executive office of the United States was filled by Rutherford B. Hayes from January 1 to March 3, by James A. Garfield from March 4 to September 19 and by Chester A. Arthur for the remainder of the year.

New methods of getting money seem to be discovered every day, but the Toledo woman's plan, who, under advice of a medium, is paying premiums on life insurance policies of relatives and acquaintances, is unique in its conception. Judgment was shown in taking policies on foot ball players, Raymond Currier who was killed at the game in Adrian was on her list.

German sentiment in opposition to the erratic Emperor seems crystallizing around the sentiment expressed by a member of the Bavarian legislature, that the country was paying too dearly for "Caesarism without glory." The map of Europe may have to be changed within a decade and William's conception of his high destiny may be the cause of it.

Should the living ex-governors of Michigan all attend the dedication exercises of the woman's annex to the Soldiers' home, there will be brought together a very distinguished body of citizens composed of men who have had much to do with writing the brightest pages of Michigan's history.

Reports of congressional proceedings this session are proving anything but dry reading. The interests under discussion are so dear to the public that the crop of jokes about the dryness of congressional reports is very liable to be winter killed.

One thing seems unreasonable about the present style of wraps worn by ladies. Who ever heard of yachting in winter, but when a bevy of girls loom in sight along the street, the beholder is forcibly reminded of a fleet of yachts with topsails and spinnakers set.

The country has been kept in the dark long enough regarding the mission of Mr. Willis. When the president complies with the senate's resolution and furnishes a copy of the instructions he gave to his agent, we will at least know where we are at.

After all, perhaps, the best thing for the governor of Florida to do, is to let Corbett and Mitchell understand that can fight in that state if they really wish to. Under those conditions Florida would probably have no further trouble with the pugs.

History seems to be repeating itself in the manner in which foot ball is degenerating as an amateur sport as did base ball. Brutality and box office receipts seem now to be the leading factors of influence with the management of the teams.

The public debt has been increasing ever since Cleveland took his place as president. Will some mathematical sharp please figure out how much "the demission total" will be before the country is well rid of the administration.

PRECEDENT is being rigidly adhered to in the present Mexican revolution. A little fighting and then the belligerent parties take a week off to attend ball fights, chicken disputes and such like ceremonies incident to civilization.

The nation will watch with interest to see how far "senatorial courtesy" will be carried this winter. It would be well to put weather strips in the shape of rules on the senate chamber and thus keep out the wind.

Foot ball has given its name to a new drink. It is called "touchdown." The bartender who invented it keeps his formula a secret, but it is said to be concocted of gin, sugar, ginger and, supposedly, arnica.

SLEIGHING, as practiced by the average driver of heavy rigs, is very apt to result in the overdriving of the horse. Two dollars for hire seems to call for four dollars to be taken out of the animal.

Chicago with the Conklin and Prendergast trials in progress has a surfeit of court attractions. The moral atmosphere of the city will be improved when both shall have run their course.

EMERSON WILLIAM is desirous of buying an American built yacht with which to beat the English flyers next season. Evidently William is not afraid of displeasing his mother-in-law.

The Democrat of this city cases envious glances at the Eagle and wonders when it can begin running that thrilling serial, "The Adventurous Letter List."

New York is arresting the Midway dancers. This is the same form of vitiating the managers worked in Chicago all summer.

In New York the papers are denouncing the game of foot ball as brutal. In Chicago it is considered a society gentleman's game.

SALT goes upon the free list. The Wilson bill makes several other fresh departures.—Chicago Dispatch.

CONGRESSMAN VANDERBILT is said to be fond of poker. Well, "Cony" would prove a hard customer to fence out.

The tariff turkey has been stuffed and drawn and is now ready for plucking with oratorical ebullience.

Florida should look on the bright rather than the dark side of the times.

HOME FOR THE WIVES

Preparations Made to Dedicate the Woman's Annex.

PROGRAM FOR THE OCCASION

Colonel Atkinson to Make a Speech. Governor Rich, With Ex-Governors, to Hold a Reception.

The board of managers of the Soldiers' home completed its December session yesterday by transacting a large amount of routine business. Several new regulations were made for the woman's annex to the home. It was decided that children should not be admitted. The board passed a resolution declaring that persons who were not residents of the state at the time the act was passed creating the home should not be considered eligible to membership. The members of the board expressed themselves as delighted with the new annex, and the manner in which it has been erected. It will be completed at a total cost not to exceed \$13,000. All of the rooms being furnished, the board can furnish the corridors and still have at least \$2,000 more of the appropriation remaining than was expected. The commandant was ordered to cut the timber at the southwest corner of the home. The articles which were received from the Michigan building were acknowledged. An operating room was ordered added to the home hospital. A committee, consisting of L. W. Sprague, L. G. Rutherford and L. K. Bishop, was appointed to prepare a program for the dedication of the home, which will take place January 3, 1894. The committee met in Sweet's last night and decided upon a general program. Col. John J. Atkinson of Detroit will be invited to deliver an oration. Invitations to the G. A. R. posts and relief corps will be made through the department headquarters. Invitations will be extended to Governor Rich and to ex-Governors Austin Blair, Edwin B. Winans, Cyrus O. Luce, Russell A. Alger, David H. Jerome and Josiah W. Benson, to a reception in the afternoon in the reception room of the main building.

POLITICAL EQUALITY CLUB.

Members Not Discouraged Over Municipal Suffrage Defeat.

The Political Equality club held its first meeting after the long summer vacation, at the residence of Mrs. Emily B. Ketcham yesterday afternoon. It was also the first meeting held since the woman's municipal suffrage law was declared unconstitutional by the supreme court. There was a small attendance, but those present expressed themselves as having lost no courage by the adverse decision. They still hope for a constitutional amendment giving them the right to vote without an educational qualification. The meeting was addressed by Mrs. Elizabeth Hagfield and Mrs. Leah Howard Adams. Mrs. Hagfield spoke of woman's relation to the law and Mrs. Adams dwelt at length on woman's work at the fair. While the members were disappointed at the failure of the suffrage act in Michigan, they rejoiced over the victory gained by women in Congress. The political franchise leagues, organized some time ago in the several wards for the purpose of studying the principles of government, will be continued and the work carried out as outlined notwithstanding the members will have no occasion to use them in the spring. The club adjourned for two weeks to meet at the same place, when Mrs. Adams and Mrs. Hagfield will continue their subjects.

FOUND HIS HORSES.

They Were Stolen From in Front of a Saloon.

J. S. Eienke of Plainfield reported to the police yesterday morning that he had found a team of horses standing at his corn crib. He gave a good description of the team, and said they looked as if they had been driven very hard. At 11 o'clock C. D. Fish of Alpine called at headquarters and said he had lost a team. He resides in Alpine and was in the city Tuesday. On his way home he stopped at a place near the city limits, on the Alpine road, and when he came out he found his team hitched to the post and the team had turned back toward the city. From the description given he recognized the team at Mr. Eienke's as his own and started after them. Mr. Eienke lives one and one-half miles north of Plainfield village. It is believed that some one stole the team and then abandoned it.

SNOW COVERED WALKS.

Work For Many Men If It Were Given Them.

Last Monday, at the meeting of the common council, Mayor Stuart asked Alderman Saunders of the committee on ordinances, if he was ready to take up the snow ordinance, but it was late and the matter was dropped. The need of some regulation in regard to the snow on sidewalks is apparent. In some parts of the city the commissioners have not had the plows out and in places where they have plowed the wind has drifted the snow several feet deep. All day yesterday complaints poured into the city marshal's office about the matter. The bulk of the kicks came from the east side of the river. There was work in the city yesterday for one hundred men, shoveling snow, had they been given the chance.

TENANTS MADE HAPPY

By an Unsettled Reduction of Rents.

Owing to the dullness of business, Mrs. C. G. Fuller, owner of several Canal street stores, has generously modified the unexpired contracts with her tenants, whereby the rent is materially reduced. The stores at Nos. 54, 52, 54 and 56 Canal street, owned by Mrs. Fuller, have been renting at the rate of \$1,200 per annum, and the contracts with the present tenants, extended to April 1, 1894, for that amount. Yesterday Mrs. Fuller had the contracts changed so that the tenants may occupy the stores until April at the rate of \$1,000 each per annum. April 1 the contracts are to be made on a basis conforming to the condition of business.

DETROIT WENT DRY.

Saloons Closed to Let Bartenders Go to Meeting.

A traveling man who arrived from Detroit last night said, "Today was the driest day in the history of Detroit. The saloons of the city from the Russell bay to the drive on Congress street were closed and the gin shavers went to the revival meetings to hear Dr. Chapman, who is conducting a monster revival.

On the windows of the East Port street saloons were posted huge placards bearing this inscription: "Closed until 6 p. m. for prayers." It was a clean, straightaway close-up—no side-door entrance to the haunts of liquid damnation. Even the restaurant bars were shut up and the man that wanted a bottle of beer with his lunch had to eat snow or go thirsty. All the members of "de gang" attended the meeting and some of the best known crooks in the country listened for the first time to the exposition of the faith. A well-known shopkeeper, I was told, came from the meeting bathed in tears. After the meeting the bars were opened; but the saloons were quieter than ever before, and the crowds stood along the polished mahogany discussing the words of the evangelist.

Fraternity Elections.

Phoenix lodge, No. 12, I. O. O. F., elected the following officers last night: Noble Grand—H. E. Gidley. Vice Grand—A. E. Stoke. Recording Secretary—H. D. Cowan. Permanent Secretary—Frank Fowler. Treasurer—A. D. Leavenworth. Trustee for Three Years—A. A. Raven. Franklin lodge, No. 151, A. O. U. W., elected officers last night as follows: Master Workman—John Dean. Past Master Workman—F. E. Cross. Foreman—Albert Creamy. Overseer—H. D. Belcher. Recorder—A. L. Christie. Financier—F. E. Cross. Receiver—Ernest Briggs. Guide—Fred Zimmerman. Inside Watchman—W. E. Jones. Outside Watchman—Nicholas Bolt. Trustee—C. S. Rice. Representative—A. L. Christie. Alternate—J. S. Livingston. Medical Examiner—C. E. Paterson.

HOTEL GOSSIP.

T. C. Sherwood of Plymouth, state bank commissioner, was a guest in The Morton yesterday. Mr. Sherwood had with him a very pretty souvenir of his recent re-appointment by Governor Rich. It is an elegantly bound book containing copies of letters to the governor and editorials from leading papers of the state recommending the appointment. The covers are of padded morocco. On the outside in plain gold letter is the Latin inscription—"Hic colim meminitur jurobit"—It will be pleasant to remember these things hereafter. The frontispiece is a perfectly finished photo-engraving of Mr. Sherwood. The copies are neatly typewritten, letters having been received from scores of the bankers and business men of the state, irrespective of party, showing an array of names and endorsements which will make it a rich legacy to his children. In the center of the book is Mr. Sherwood's commission from the governor. The book is carefully indexed and any notice may be found with no trouble. The book is a work of art and was prepared and presented to Mr. Sherwood by Hackus Brothers of Detroit.

Judge Harrison H. Wheeler of Ludington is a guest in The Morton. Judge Wheeler represented the ninth district of Michigan in the last congress, but was defeated for re-election by J. W. Moon of Muskegon. C. B. Wing, a prominent Ludington lumberman and H. H. Holt of Muskegon, ex-lieutenant governor of the state were guests in The Morton last night also.

Harley J. Brittain of The Clarendon, who presented with a gold watch by the boarders in the hotel a few days ago, reciprocated last night by giving a sleighing party to his friends.

Mr. and Mrs. E. Carpenter and family and Mr. and Mrs. William Carpenter of Charlevoix, were guests in The New Livingston yesterday on their way to Florida to spend the winter.

Henri Marteau, the violinist and his party, consisting of Rudolph Arenson, Edwin M. Shonert, Madame Rosa Lindh and Mlle. Lindh, arrived in The Morton late last night.

Judge C. B. Grant of the state supreme court, was a guest in The Morton for dinner yesterday.

Bert J. Smith, clerk in the Vincent house, East Saginaw, is a guest in Sweet's.

Mayor George P. Hamner of Holland, died in The New Livingston yesterday. Morton—C. F. Gates, North Branch; R. I. Henderson, Hastings; W. F. Kracht, Mt. Clemens; C. B. Grant, Lansing; T. C. Sherwood, Plymouth; G. E. Williams, Detroit.

SWEETS—J. R. Robinson, Detroit; B. C. Lewis, Detroit; Max Bauman, Manistee; E. J. Smith, Saginaw; Daniel Dake, Manistee; R. J. Richards, Owosso. NEW LIVINGSTON—W. P. Wyman, Grand Haven; G. F. Winkler, Bay City; W. P. Hamner, Holland; J. F. Hummel, Lansing; Mr. and Mrs. E. Carpenter, Charlevoix; F. C. Davis, Jackson.

EAGLE—A. W. Thornton, Cadillac; J. Carmbus, Osego; A. L. Coulter, Charlevoix; R. Wicott, Freeport; J. E. Little, St. Johns; D. R. Parsons, Detroit.

KENT—E. M. Smith and wife, Cedar Springs; John McLeod, Holland; E. L. Coppens, Freeport; Frank Harding, Witzell; W. H. Clark, Lowell; J. H. Saira, Jackson; Ray Heath, Waverly.

BATHS STREET—Dr. T. D. Smith, Cooperville; G. N. Becker, Rockford; W. O. Hall, Holland; George Bode, Fremont; J. H. Whittaker, Pewamo; G. F. Wrecker, Bay City.

CLARENDOON—M. J. Wood, Athens; L. D. Chapple, Wauvian; M. F. Buckley, Berlin; H. J. Dudley, Fremont; William Zimman, Lilley; J. L. Bailey, Rockford.

AMUSEMENT NOTES.

Owing to the late arrival of Henri Marteau, the reception which Manager Emerson had arranged for the violinist yesterday afternoon in the Ladies Literary club was postponed until this morning from 10 until 12 o'clock. The St. Cecilia and all music lovers have been invited to meet the virtuoso. In the evening Mr. Marteau and his talented company will give a concert in Locksby hall.

Little Marguerite Ferguson has acquired renown of a certain kind as a contortion dancer. She will be seen with her father, Barney Ferguson, in The Powers tomorrow night when that lively skit "McCarthy's Mishaps" will be presented. Reserve seat sale opens this morning.

The dissecting room scene in "The Torment," now showing in The Grand, where the hero finds his wife's corpse is the subject for demonstration, is not a fancy of the dramatist's brain, but an incident in a surgeon's life. Business is satisfactory; there will be a matinee today.

Frank Lincoln, the famous entertainer, whose business has been stolen by a host of poor imitators, was the guest of Frank M. Davis yesterday.

Tomorrow night the Temple quartet will open the entertainment course in the Y. M. C. A. hall.

Despite stormy weather the burlesque company playing at Smith's attracts good audiences.

NAVY YARD ABLAZE

One of the Big Buildings at Norfolk Burned,

CAUSING \$3,000,000 LOSS

The Fire is Supposed to Have Been Caused by Spontaneous Combustion—One Fireman Injured.

Norfolk, Va., Dec. 6.—There was an immense fire in the navy yard this morning, and before the flames could be subdued a brick and stone building 75 feet wide by 250 feet long, three stories high, with its contents of steam engines and stores, was in ashes. The fire was discovered at 7:40 o'clock. When smoke was seen issuing from the building the fact was reported to the watch officers, and immediately thereafter to Admiral Brown, who ordered out the fire department and the bell at the gate was rung. Captain Crowell, who has charge of the navy yard, made an investigation and found the fire in the center of the building on the second floor. The Portsmouth fire department was called on and sent engines, which, after having great difficulty in getting water, went to work and sent powerful streams into the burning building.

Water Had No Effect.

Water did not have much effect, however, as there was a great quantity of cotton waste, turpentine, oil and other combustible materials which burned furiously and nothing could be done other than to confine the blaze to the doomed building. While the fire was at its height, J. Turner White and Willie Powell, two of the clerks engaged in making an inventory of the stock of the building, entered the office, though warned that it was dangerous, and secured all the books and papers therein. There was only one accident during the fire. George W. Bland of Portsmouth, while placing a ladder, was struck over the eye with a piece of falling slate, receiving a bad cut which was dressed at the dispensary. The origin of the fire is supposed to be from spontaneous combustion as there is a standing order that all office fires must be extinguished at 4 o'clock. The loss is expected to reach between \$200,000 and \$300,000.

J. Whitcomb Riley's Father Dead.

INDIANAPOLIS, Dec. 6.—Captain Reuben A. Riley, the father of James Whitcomb Riley, the poet, died at his home at Greenfield, Indiana, this morning of pneumonia, aged 74 years. Captain Riley was a Quaker and a lawyer. He organized the first three months company at Greenfield for the late war. He served in the legislature of Indiana many years ago.

Stole a Church Contribution.

Tommy and Ralph Pettit of Lake avenue, two boys aged 8 and 10 years respectively, were arrested by Patrolman Wood last night for stealing an envelope containing \$1.50 from the contribution plate at the East Street M. E. church. The boys went to prayer meeting last night, and after the meeting was dismissed one of them took an envelope offering. They had spent 15 cents of the amount before they were arrested. Superintendent Carr gave them a good lecture at the station house and released them under promise that they would return to his office this morning.

ENDORSES THE HERALD.

EDITOR GRAND RAPIDS HERALD: Permit me to thank you for your timely words spoken in favor of the Rev. Mr. Mills and his efficient work against his unjust critics. It is strange, indeed, that ministers who are the living representatives and exponents of the teachings of Christ, and who should mould religious thought and guide the public into all truth, are the first to infuse the deep, thoughtful religious sentiment and interest created. Every minister has a method of work—a definite plan, a distinct individuality of his own, and the true christian will rejoice that Christ is preached if not as he would preach.

These critics, by a rising vote, expressed the following, either honestly or untruthfully: "We hereby place on record our cordial and hearty endorsement of the Rev. B. Fay Mills and his assistants, and our earnest approval of the intelligent and efficient manner in which the meetings have been conducted and the fidelity to scriptural truth which has marked the preaching of our Brother Mills."

Mr. Mills went out from us with this endorsement, and now some few, "wise in their own estimation," rise up to say deliberately we did not mean what we said. Shame.

Now is the time to reap a large ingathering, and many of us pastors will gather in the fruit and rejoice with joy unspeakable. In the name of christianity and sound morality, I enter my voice in protest against this unchristian criticism. In our church we are all helped and spiritually bettered. Thirty or forty have started in earnest upon a christian life. How true the remark of Mr. Mills in an executive meeting: "I have met greater and more serious opposition in this city than in all the other places I have labored, since engaging in evangelistic work."

Is this opposition in the pulpit, the church, or both? Brethren, go to work and reap the fruit. "Satan finds some mischief still for idle hands to do." I am pleased with the work done, approve of Mr. Mills, and earnestly protest against ministers publicly criticising a work that God has so graciously honored.

THOMAS G. SMITH.

STATE PRESS SENTIMENT.

Whoever takes the trouble to read President Cleveland's latest essay will find it disappointing and fatiguing, an unexpected elaboration of petty details of government routine and a staid effort to avoid responsibility in all the great questions which affect the public interests. It is not the authoritative utterance of a fearless leader to his party followers, but rather a tame discussion of past events, disappointing alike to friends and opponents of an administration, which the president scarcely dares to defend.—Jackson Citizen.

It is to be feared that the president has distinctly lowered himself in the estimation of his admirers by recognizing his cabinet officers as separate personalities in his message.—Detroit Tribune.

Enforced democratic idleness among the people now prevailing in this country costs every man, woman and child more daily than it did to put down the rebellion.—Cedar Spring Copper.

The gradual revival of business accompanied everywhere by the trouble of wages of workmen is not especially clearing.—Saginaw Courier Herald.

MORSE'S
DEPARTMENT
STORE

See What

Cash vs. Credit
Will do for you in
our popular
Grocery Department

12c for Men's Merino Half Hose.
 42c for Men's Heavy Lacing Shirts.
 12½c for Carter's Little Liver Pills.
 10c a can for Extra Quality Tomatoes.
 7c a pound for Good Mixed Candy.
 15c a yard for choice of a lot of 25c Dress Goods.
 97½c a yard for Moire Silks, worth \$1.25.
 25c a yard for Dress Trimmings, worth up to \$1.
 15c for choice of a lot of Untrimmed Hats and Fancy Feathers.

We have 50 Sideboards to close out at less than wholesale prices.

Economical buyers will find something worthy of their attention in every department.

MORSE'S,

122, 124 and 126 Monroe.

SOME FELLER SAID

That if he only had a place to rest a lever he could lift the world. Why he should want to lift the world is a mooted question. If he had said

GIVE ME A CHAFING DISH
AND I WILL COOK FOR THE WORLD,

There would have been some sense in it.



CHAFING DISHES

Are the handiest, most useful little food cookers ever invented. It makes no difference what you want to cook, you can cook it in a Jewett Chafing Dish—fish, flesh or fowl, potatoes, pear or prairie chicken, mushrooms, macaroni or mush. Every kind of toothsome dish a chafing dish will quickly and nicely prepare for you. We have a remarkably fine assortment.

The Best Line of Chafers

We ever have had and as in no season are they more useful than in the winter season now is the season to buy them.

FOSTER STEVENS
& CO.
MONROE ST.